GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4952
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2000
AMNESTY SCHEMES
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many Gulf countries have announced Amnesty schemes for those wishing to come back to their respective mother lands;

(b) if so, the number of Indians who returned India under the said schemes during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government have since created Manpower Export Promotion Council and Overseas Workers Welfare Fund for the persons who came back under the said schemes;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the further steps being taken by the Government for the betterment of those who have came back?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per information available, our Missions in five Gulf countries issued a total of 68573 Emergency Certificates to facilitate the return of Indian nationals when the Amnesty Schemes were announced by the respective countries.

(c) to (e) The proposal for setting up of the Central Manpower Export Promotion Council Council and Overseas Workers Welfare Fund is still under consideration of the Government. However, the Welfare Fund will not be utilized for such of the workers who come back to India under any Amnesty Scheme. There is also no proposal under consideration of the Central Government for extending any benefit, financial or otherwise, to such workers.